

News in Brief

Wurttemberg, in Germany, is over-run with teachers of English. Germany smoked 368 tons of cigars last year, as against thirty-eight tons in 1901.

READY FOR FIGHT

RUSSIA MOVES TROOPS IN STRATEGIC POSITIONS.

OCCUPIES TERMINUS OF ROAD

This Will Be an Important Point in the Event of War—Japan's and the United States' Rights in Manchuria.

PEKING—Authentic information has reached the legation here that two divisions of Russian troops are coming by the Siberian railroad.

A Russian force has occupied the terminus of the new branch of the Shan-Hai-Kwan-New-Chwang railroad, recently completed by the Chinese.

The foreigners at New-Chwang, fearing the town may become the scene of hostilities in case of war on account of the presence there of a Russian garrison are urging the consuls to secure action on the part of their governments to maintain the neutrality of New-Chwang, asserting that business will be seriously impaired and adding that as the Russian occupation is not recognized by China or by the powers the governments have ground for action.

The Japanese mail steamer leaving China-Tao Tuesday carried the families of many Japanese merchants of New-Chwang.

The United States and Japan are strenuously endeavoring to establish their rights in Manchuria under the new commercial treaties before war breaks out.

WASHINGTON, Minn. Conger is urging the government to send a telegraphic copy and to authorize the Chinese minister at Washington to make the exchange thereof.

The ratifications of the treaty between Japan and China were exchanged at the foreign office here Monday.

Seal Affixed at Peking—Becomes Effective at Once.

WASHINGTON—Sir Chentung Li-janz Chen, the Chinese minister here, called upon Acting Secretary of State Loomis late Tuesday afternoon and informed him that he had received a cable dispatch from Peking stating that the emperor had fixed his seal to the Chinese-American treaty, and, further, that he had accepted the request of the American government through Minister Conger for the immediate exchange of ratifications.

Contested Election Cases.

WASHINGTON—House elections committee No. 2 fixed February 15 for hearing arguments in the contested election case of Reynolds against Butler, from the Twelfth district of Missouri.

Exhibits Unfinished Work.

DEMOCRATS TRY ST. LOUIS.

National Committee Selects 'World's Fair City'.

WASHINGTON.—The democratic national committee on Tuesday furnished a surprise, selecting St. Louis as the place for the national convention of 1904.

For some hours previous to the meeting of the committee there was talk in the corridors and among the democratic leaders that the convention in Chicago might find a strong newspaper influence in favor of some particular candidate.

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WASHINGTON—Secretary Hitchcock of the interior department has recommended to the president that the office of railroad commissioner held by the late General James Longstreet be abolished.

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MISSION OF REYS

IT IS ENDED AND HE WILL SOON START FOR HOME.

HE CALLS ON SECRETARY HAY

Tells That Efforts in Panama Are Futile—Threatens to Publish Correspondence Between Himself and Hay Unless President Does.

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GOVERNOR HUNT'S MESSAGE.

Says American Occupation Lifts Up Patriotism.

SAN JUAN.—Governor Hunt's message, which will be read to the legislature Tuesday, opens with words of encouragement. The message will urge that the future be looked forward to with courage and will point out that Porto Rico leads in demonstrating to the peoples of the West Indies that American occupation lifts up the patriotism of people.

The message recommends the adoption of the American code of civil procedure, a special appropriation for the eradication of tropical anemia, the creation of election inspectors, a trial of the contract system for the building of roads, the immediate creation of a special tribunal for the prompt settlement of all questions between the Catholic church and the government, leases and not sales of government lands, the repeal of measures by which roads are built by convicts and an increased appropriation for Porto Rican representation at the St. Louis World's exposition.

The message urges surveys of lands and the advancement of education by industrial schools.

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TRIAL SOON OVER

DIETRICH AND FISHER FOUND NOT GUILTY.

THE INDICTMENTS ARE QUASHED

Court Decides That the Senator Was Not a Member of Congress When Contracts Were Made—He is Therefore Not Guilty as Charged.

OMAHA.—The Dietrich trial in the federal circuit court is a trial of the past. The senator has been found not guilty of accepting a bribe, had the indictments of conspiracy against him quashed because the court held he could not be charged twice with the same offense and was relieved from defending himself in the charge of enjoining a lease with the government upon the portion of the district attorney.

Summers refused to make any statement after the trial was over. He said: "I have no further statement to make—nothing more to say, I think."

"I have nothing to say," said Senator Dietrich, "beyond the fact that I was willing to waive any technicality in order to secure a full trial. My attorneys advised me, and, I believe, correctly, that the court would not allow the case to go to the jury, for the reason that Summers would not and could not prove that I was a senator when the lease was made. The lease was made before I was even elected senator and while I was still governor. Summers knew this and knew that his case would not be allowed to go to the jury, but he persisted in his effort solely to besmirch my name."

At the same time in the court room Senator Dietrich was surrounded by a group of friends anxious to shake his hand and to say that even though the prosecution had lost because it had not been shaped in conformity to law, they were satisfied that the senator was guiltless literally as well as technically. His daughter, Miss Gertrude Dietrich, was the center of a throng of women smiling and talking freely for the first time since the trial began.

Postmaster Jacob Fisher of Hastings, who also was freed of the charges pending against him, was expressing his satisfaction and saying that he did not care so much about the indictment, but that it was "his girls" that were the most concerned over the matter.

A most notable assemblage of lawyers heard the delivering of Judge Van Devanter of the two decisions, both of which settled points never before raised in American jurisprudence, the first as to whether a senator is a member of congress when and after he is elected or upon taking the oath of office, and the second being on the contention that a lease with the government made by a member of congress does not operate to cause him to fracture the law because its provisions are adhered to after the senator becomes a public officer.

The point as to the exact time a person becomes a member of congress was raised by General Cowin and argued by both sides. It had been anticipated as a vital feature of the bribery case and the judges had prepared for it. They were ready, therefore, with the decision, although, as Judge Devanter said, the reasoning had not been reduced to the form in which it will stand upon the court records.

"From the conclusions," he said at the end, "we must instruct the jury to find this defendant not guilty."

Gentlemen of the jury, it results from that which has been just said in your presence that, if all the evidence which the prosecution has in hand and which was described were now introduced and before you, it would appear that the defendant had not attained that official relation with the United States which was necessary to come within the inhibition of this statute, and hence we must instruct you to find the defendant not guilty.

The evidence has been rendered necessary and it is your duty to find the defendant not guilty."

HARRIMAN NOW THE HEAD.

Takes the Place of Burt as President of the Union Pacific.

WORK THIS WEEK.

Forecast of Senate and House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON.—At the beginning of Monday's session the senate will resume consideration of the Purness and Carnack resolutions for an investigation of irregularities in the post-office department.

There are still some democratic senators who desire to be heard on this matter. Senator Spooner has intimated his intention to make a more extended reply to Senator Carnack's charge that Postmaster General Payne has been at all times in the prosecution of frauds in his department.

The nomination of Mr. Buchanan to be minister to Panama remains unacted on and discussion of it will be resumed at the next executive session of the senate.

Other questions are expected to be taken up during the week, including a bill providing for a forest reserve in the Southern Appalachian mountains, and the resolutions pertaining to good roads.

Senator Burton has given notice of a speech on the forest reserve bill and Senator Lattimer of one on the good roads proposition. Mr. Lattimer's notice is for next Thursday, but Mr. Burton has fixed no definite time for his remarks.

The indications now are that the urgent deficiency bill, the next to follow, will be reported to the house the last of this week or the first of the following week. It is desired to get some of the appropriation bills over to the senate as early as possible. There are a few minor measures about ripe for action, which will be taken up from time to time.

FRANCE IS NOW DIPPING IN.

Would Prevent the Transfer of the Canal Property.

WASHINGTON.—A dispatch to Mr. Herran, Colombian charge d'affaires, received from Paris, said that a French tribunal had been appealed to by an agent of Colombia with a view to preventing the transfer of the Panama Canal company's rights on the isthmus to the American government without the consent of Colombia.

Counsel for the Colombian government, according to the dispatch, assured the agent he thought there was good ground for believing the effort to prevent the transfer would be successful.

The step it is said, is with the full concurrence of the Colombian authorities and was instituted by an agent of the government, who left the United States after consultation with General Reyes and Dr. Herran. The end sought to be attained, is to frustrate the sale of concessions, franchises and property of the canal company to the United States, preparations for which already have been under way, the amount to be paid by this government being \$10,000,000.

Arbitration Treaty.

ROME—King Victor Emmanuel has signed decrees giving Foreign Minister Tittoni full powers in connection with the arbitration treaty between Italy and Great Britain, which will be signed in Rome when the British ambassador has been similarly empowered.

South Dakota Gold Production.

WASHINGTON.—Owing to a clerical error in the figures furnished the Associated Press on January 2, the amount representing the gold production of South Dakota for the calendar year 1903 was given as \$2,889,137, instead of \$6,889,137, the actual estimate.

Moseley Will Ask to Be Relieved.

WASHINGTON.—It is understood that after the conclusion of investigation into the conduct of office of secretary of interstate commerce commissioner, Edward M. Moseley, who has been for many years discharging duties of that body, will ask to be relieved from duties of discharging clerk. The office does not pay any salary and its head, although responsible for the action of employes working under him, never has a direct eye upon their doings.

France Will not Interfere.

LONDON.—Dasschner, first secretary of the French embassy, in an interview Friday said that the present arrangement between France and Great Britain were such that it would be impossible to disturb them. The secretary said that even if Korea and China joined Japan they would not be considered as powers within the meaning of the Franco-Prussian treaty and that, therefore, it will not be likely that France will be called on to interfere.

Militia Arms and Equipment.

WASHINGTON.—Secretary Shaw transmitted to the house a request of Secretary Root for an appropriation of \$55,000 for new arms and equipment for organized militia.